

BANGS ELIMINATED

Oliver Wins Panama Canal Contract on Condition.

MUST FIND A PARTNER

New York Man's Credentials Found to Be Unsatisfactory and He Was Turned Down at Conference at White House.

A Washington special says: As the extended conference at the white house Friday, it was decided to reject the bid of Oliver and Bangs, who proposed to complete the construction of the Panama canal for 6.75 per cent of the total estimated cost, in so far as Anson M. Bangs of New York is concerned.

While no official statement was given out, it can be authoritatively stated that if William J. Oliver of Knoxville, Tenn., can enter into a satisfactory arrangement with some other contractor, who is financially responsible, he will be given the big contract.

The fact that the MacArthur-Gillespie company of New York, whose bid was 12.5 per cent, was represented at the conference, leads many to believe that a combination may be formed between that firm and Oliver, it is known that the MacArthur-Gillespie company has convinced President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft of its responsibility and the canal commission officials are satisfied that Oliver is able to carry out his end of the agreement. There would have been no question as to awarding the contract to Oliver and Bangs had the credentials presented by Bangs proven as satisfactory as those furnished by Oliver.

The decision means that Mr. Oliver will be given a chance to take some other contractor into partnership. The canal commission, with this requirement met, will not undertake to dictate to him who this contractor shall be.

The rejecting of all bids was discussed at Friday's cabinet meeting, and this decision had been practically agreed upon before the night conference. If Mr. Oliver refuses to consider the contract after the rejection of Mr. Bangs, the canal commission will issue a call for new bids.

Anson M. Bangs of New York, Mr. Oliver's associate, was turned down. Mr. Bangs' credentials were found to be unsatisfactory. The fact that the Savannah harbor frauds. This fact, however, it is stated, had no influence with the canal commission.

After the cabinet meeting Mr. Oliver left Washington for New York, and it is admitted by his representatives that he will ask the MacArthur-Gillespie company to join him in submitting a proposal in place of the bid submitted under the firm name of Oliver & Bangs. It is stated that a compromise arrangement will be considered by the canal commission, provided Oliver succeeds in making a satisfactory arrangement with the MacArthur-Gillespie company to pay 9 per cent of the total cost for the construction of the canal.

ECHO OF RUSSO-JAP WAR.

Czar's Government to Complete the Evacuation of Manchuria at Once.

In a cablegram received in Washington Friday Mr. Rockhill advises the state department that the Chinese government has been informed by the Russian minister at Peking that Russia would complete the evacuation of Manchuria at once, leaving only the railway guard, which is in accordance with the treaty of Portsmouth. There are about twenty thousand troops to be withdrawn.

A LOAN TO JAMESTOWN.

Million Dollars to Be Appropriated, Secured by Lien on Receipts.

The senate committee on appropriations, Wednesday, adopted as a rider on the house bill making appropriations to supply additional urgent deficiencies, the senate bill appropriating one million as a loan to the Jamestown Exposition company, this loan to become a first lien upon the property of the company for the purpose of securing the loan from the Hampton Roads.

BIDS WILL DECIDE MATERIAL

In Question of Marble or Granite in Atlanta Public Building.

Supervising Architect Taylor of the treasury department at Washington says that the use of granite or marble in the construction of Atlanta's post office and public building will depend upon the bids. The whole cost of construction must come under the million dollar appropriation.

PRESIDENT IS REBUKED

By Republican Senators on a Resolution Endorsing His Course in the the Brownsville Affair.

The anti-administration senators on the republican side are jubilant over the result of their rebuke administered to the president Tuesday, says a Washington special. They have passed the Foraker resolution providing for an inquiry at Brownsville, and are hugging themselves in delight. By turning down the resolutions of Mallory of Florida, and Culberson of Texas, which both sought to endorse the president's action in the Brownsville affair, the republicans have practically stated that they do not endorse that action, and that the discharge was without constitutional authority.

The democrats, with the exception of Tillman and Blackburn, sustained the president throughout. Blackburn, the floor leader of the democrats, on Monday, expressed himself satisfied with the Foraker resolution, and to be consistent he held to that position throughout the balloting Tuesday afternoon.

The resolution of Senator Mallory declared that the president's action was within the scope of his authority, and power, and the proper exercise thereof. The motion to table this resolution was carried by a vote of 42 to 22.

Senator Culberson's resolution stated that "the president was authorized by law, and justified by the facts in the discharge without honor."

This was also voted down by a ye and nay vote. The republican recalcitrants had summoned up their courage, they had forgotten the shadow of the big stick, and they refused to vote their approval of the action of Theodore Roosevelt.

No one who knows the man can believe for a minute that he will be contented with this action of the republican senators or accept the explanation that the parliamentary situation on the floor made it necessary to withhold approval of his action in dismissing the negro soldiers.

Regardless of what action was taken on the Foraker resolution providing for an investigation into the facts, in which inquiry the Ohio senator admits the question of constitutional authority, is intricately interwoven, the president has declared that he will stand on his order until the stars fall, and that no one else can suspend it.

DISMISSED BUCHANAN CASE.

Supreme Court of United States is Without Jurisdiction.

The case of O. W. Buchanan against the state of South Carolina, involving a question as to the amount of the salary of Buchanan, as a state circuit judge in South Carolina from 1899, was dismissed Monday by the supreme court of the United States for want of jurisdiction.

The dispute was due to the fact that there was doubt as to which of two South Carolina statutes controlled in the matter. One of these, a general law, was approved December 22, 1903, and fixed the salaries of circuit judges at \$3,000 per year, while the other, a regular appropriation bill, which became a law the next day, provided for them at the old rate of \$2,500. The suit was brought for the difference, amounting to \$500 a year. The extra sum was denied by the supreme court of South Carolina, and the higher court's decision has the effect of affirming that ruling.

SENATOR BAILEY RE-ELECTED.

Beats His Enemies by One Vote in the Texas Legislature.

United States Senator Joseph W. Bailey was re-elected United States senator Tuesday by a vote in the two branches of the Texas state legislature of 108 to 45. In the state senate the vote was 19 in favor of Senator Bailey, and 10 against him, and in the lower house Senator Bailey received 89 votes, and 35 were cast against him. Eighty-three votes were necessary to a choice.

COTTON GINNING REPORT.

Bales Turned Out to January 16 Totalled 12,167,873.

At Washington Wednesday the census report was issued, which shows that 12,167,873 bales of cotton, counting round bales as half bales, have been ginned from the growth of 1906 to January 16, 1907.

The number of active ginneries this year is 218,525. The sea island cotton ginned to January 16, 1907, distributed by states, was: Florida 23,666 bales, Georgia 21,775 and South Carolina 7,761.

MORE PAY FOR CARRIERS.

R. F. D. Men's Wages to Be Raised to \$70 Per Month.

The postoffice and post roads committee of the house Wednesday reached a decision in the matter of increased pay for rural free delivery of carriers, and will recommend that the maximum salary be fixed at \$50 per year, or \$70 per month.

SOLONS VOTE RAISE

National Legislators Give Themselves More Pay.

TWENTY-ONE VOTED NAY

Henceforth Senators and Representatives Will Draw \$7,500 Per Year and Vice President, Speaker and Cabinet Members \$12,000.

A Washington special says: The senate Wednesday passed the house amendment to the legislative appropriation bill, increasing the salaries of the vice president, speaker, members of the cabinet and members and senators, by a vote of 53 to 21. The bill increases the salaries of senators and members to \$7,500 and of the other officers mentioned to \$12,000.

In the course of the debate the venerable Senator Pettus of Alabama paid a frank and sincere tribute to his colleague, Senator Morgan, as an illustration of the fact that a man who entered the public service, sacrificing his personal business and personal interests and his outside pursuits to devote his time and talents and energy to the government in legislative halls deserved some recognition.

He said Senator Morgan had served thirty years; that he had not accumulated a fortune in that time, but that the people of Alabama were proud of him just the same and loved him because he had not grown rich in the United States senate. He thought the increase asked was small enough, in view of the \$15,000 or \$20,000 yearly income, which Senator Morgan had sacrificed for so many years in order to remain in the senate. The incident was a unique feature of the day's session.

Senator Money of Mississippi voted for the measure and said if he had \$750,000,000 per year to disburse he would not as a business proposition, give absolute power to disburse it, into the hands of men whose services were only worth \$5,000 a year.

A number of speeches for and against the measure were made, the principal ones being delivered by Senator Berry of Arkansas, who opposed it, and Senator Tillman, who favored its passage.

Senator Tillman, saying that he had just been elected to six more years of service, would vote for the increase, not because he would get more money, but because he believed it was right. He would rather have voted for it last year before his re-election. If fault was found he was willing to resign.

The vote in detail was as follows: Yeas—Aldrich, Allee, Arkeny, Benson, Beveridge, Brandegee, Bulkeley, Barnham, Burrows, Carter, Clark of Montana, Clark of Wyoming, Clarke of Arkansas, Crane, Cullom, Daniel, Dick, Dillingham, Dubois, Dupont, Flint, Foraker, Foster, Fry, Fulton, Gallinger, Hale, Hepburn, Hopkins, Kittredge, Keox, Latimer, Lodge, McCumber, McEnery, Millard, Money, Newlands, Nixon, Overman, Penrose, Pettus, Piles, Scott, Simmons, Smoot, Spooner, Sutherland, Tillman, Teller, Warner and Warren—53.

Nays—Bacon, Berry, Blackburn, Burkett, Carmack, Clapp, Clay, Culberson, Frazier, Hansborough, Hemenway, LaFollette, McCreary, Mallory, Nelson, Patterson, Perkins, Rayner, Stone, Talliaferro and Whyte—21.

SWETTENHAM INCIDENT ENDS.

Uncle Sam Washes His Hands of the Whole Jamaican Matter.

The president has finally dismissed the incident connected with the refusal by Governor Swettenham of Jamaica of aid from Admiral Davis in a letter made public at the state department Wednesday, addressed by Acting Secretary Bacon to British Charge Howard.

HAND PRINTERS MUST GO.

So Says Public Printer Stillings in an Order Just Issued.

Public Printer Stillings has issued a general order in which he says the days of hand composition are fast coming to a close. The order was issued to call attention to the government printing office's night school in instruction on typesetting machines. The instruction will be free, but no pay given for the work accomplished. In the event of reduction in the force of hand printers, those who can operate the machines will be given preference.

FORAKER TO ACT LAWYER

For Negro Soldiers in Investigation of the Brownsville Case.

Testimony concerning the affair at Brownsville, Texas, will be taken by the senate committee on military affairs beginning February 4. The full committee will sit at that time in Washington. Subpoenas will be issued at once, Senator Foraker will conduct the case for the discharged soldiers.

THIRTY-TWO MILLIONS

Have Been Spent So Far in Canal Work, Says Rotating Chairman Shonts in Banquet Speech.

Theodore P. Shonts, who on Wednesday resigned the chairmanship of the isthmian canal commission, was the guest of honor in Kansas City on Thursday evening at the monthly dinner of the Knife and Fork Club, and delivered an interesting address touching the Panama canal.

"The creative period," declared Mr. Shonts, "has come to an end, and the period of active construction has begun. As to the manner in which the creative task has been performed we are content to let the facts speak for themselves."

In closing Mr. Shonts quoted as follows from President Roosevelt's message, written after the chief executive returned from the isthmus:

"The wisdom of the canal management has been shown in nothing more clearly than in the way in which the foundations have been laid."

Mr. Shonts denied that his resignation of the chairmanship had resulted from any disagreement with President Roosevelt, or any member of the commission, and declared that the best of relations existed between himself and all his canal associates.

Regarding the necessary preliminary work he said:

"In this preliminary work, we have spent down to January 1, 1907, about \$32,000,000. Of this amount \$4,500,000 have been spent in government and sanitation; about \$7,000 in construction of quarters and other buildings, docks, wharves, railway enlargement, water works and sewers in the zone, and in engineering work, and about \$12,000,000 in permanent plants; over \$15,000,000 in miscellaneous materials and supplies, and over \$1,500,000 in the construction of sewers and water works and street paving and improvements in Panama and Colon. The last named will be refunded ultimately to the government."

"We have driven yellow fever permanently from the isthmus. That is the supreme achievement. For fourteen months there has not been a single case of this terror of the tropics. The stegomyia mosquito of which the extreme period of life is three months, and which is the bearer of the yellow fever germ, has been almost thrown out of business."

"So far as general health conditions are concerned I can give you no stronger evidence of their favorable character than by stating the fact that among about 6,000 white Americans, including women and children, on the isthmus, there was for three months in the rainy season of last year—August, September and October—not a single death from disease."

Continuing in his detailing of accomplishments, he said: "As I said to you in the opening part of my address, the work of actual excavation was restricted during the creative period to merely preparatory lines. Still, something has been done in the direction of making the 'dirt fly.' During the fiscal year ending with June last 1,500,000 cubic yards were taken from the canal prism against 742,000 yards removed during the previous year."

"Altogether, the surface in the Culbraz cut has been brought down 65 feet below the level left by the French. A large amount of the excavated material has been used in filling for railroad yards and double-tracking of the Panama railroad."

JOB IS UP TO STEVENS.

Chief Engineer Will Also Act Chairman of Canal Commission.

Announcement was made at the war department Thursday that the office of chairman and chief engineer of the isthmian canal commission would be combined, and that Mr. Stevens, the present chief engineer, would be given the appointment, the understanding being that he will maintain a residence on the isthmus.

POISONING CASE UP AGAIN.

Commitment Trial of Merchant Grover Again Awakes Interest.

G. L. Groover, a prominent merchant of Chelsea, Ga., who is now in jail at Summerville, will have his second commitment trial charged with the poisoning of Mrs. Hooks, the wife of R. E. Hooks.

Owing to the standing of all parties concerned a great deal of interest is felt as to the result of the trial. Mr. Groover had his first trial several months ago and he was acquitted.

TWO SCORE MINERS KILLED.

In Frightful Gas Explosion in Coal Pit at Primero, Colorado.

Twenty miners, according to the most authoritative information available Wednesday evening, lost their lives as a result of an explosion which occurred early Wednesday in the Colorado Fuel and Iron company's coal mine at Primero, Colorado, twenty miles west of Trinidad.

WHAT FARMERS DID

Epitome of Work of National Union at Atlanta.

GREAT MEETING CLOSES

Wind-Up Session Was One of Unbounded Enthusiasm—Resolutions and Suggestions of Paramount Interest Were Adopted.

After what has been unanimously described as the most enthusiastic and important meeting in its history, the Farmers' Union adjourned at Atlanta Thursday noon amid songs and congratulatory speeches and general good feeling.

Action taken by the convention can be summed up in the following resume of the three days' session. An epitome of the more important resolutions is as follows:

That the state business agents be required to meet annually and formulate plans to that end.

The substance of the report of the committee on cotton crop is, that the next national union fix the minimum price by grades taking middling as a basis after having given due consideration to the acreage, the supply of new material and manufactured goods on hand and the demand for said goods. That the establishment of cotton warehouses be encouraged by the union throughout the cotton belt; said warehouses to be incorporated under the laws of the several states.

The report of the committee on cotton schools advocates the establishment of cotton schools in every state in the cotton states, each state to have a separate school, but all states to have a uniform grade.

The committee on market recommends that factories be established and owned by farmers for the manufacture of certain articles used by the farmer. This applies particularly to fertilizers.

The committee on education stressed the importance of urging better educational facilities in the rural schools throughout the south.

The committee on fertilizer recommended that no union man buy or use the fertilizers of any manufacturers or dealers who refuses to recognize union agents and sell to them at same price and terms as other agents.

By Campbell Russell: That it is the sense of this convention that all politicians and others not familiar with the needs of agriculture who may be tendered appointments as trustees or other official positions in connection with any agricultural school or college be asked to show their patriotism by refusing to accept such positions for which they are manifestly unfitted.

The report of the committee on agricultural schools criticizes the management of a majority of these state institutions, and recommends that they shall be placed under the direction of the board of public institutions, that the trustees and boards of directors shall be farmers.

The committee on warehouses after advocating the establishment of bonded warehouses, recommended the adoption of some feasible plan of selling cotton direct to the spinners, and that the organization as soon as possible be established for the purpose of financing and protecting of cotton in the Farmers' Union warehouses.

The committee on diversified crops calls upon all Farmers' Union members to diversify their crops and thereby refrain from living out of "paper sacks."

That a conference of the spinners of the east and the Farmers' Union be held in May in the city of Birmingham or other convenient city in the south.

The committee on co-operation recommends that the Farmers' Union co-operate with the wool growers and other co-operators of the north and west in the establishment of a co-operative woolen mill at any suitable point; that the Farmers' Union will aid in the capitalization of the same and patronage of the same.

By the committee on legislation: Resolved, That parcels post system should be established and as a bill will be presented to congress to that end, we hereby urge each local county and state union to send petitions to their respective senators and representatives to urge the enactment of a parcels post law.

Hon. Thomas E. Watson was selected as general organizer for the Union.

TIED WIFE IN A CHAIR

And When He Returned With Doctor She Was Dead.

Mrs. Cris Young, an aged woman, died suddenly at her home near Dawsonville, Ga. She became sick and her husband, fearing she might fall out of her chair, while he went for assistance, tied her to the chair. When he got back she was dead.

SHONTS HAS RESIG

Head of Canal Commission Voluntarily Quits Job to Engage in Other Business.

The resignation of Theodore P. Shonts as chairman of the isthmian canal commission was announced at the white house Wednesday, having been tendered to the president and accepted by him, according to correspondence made public. It will take effect not later than March 1. Mr. Shonts having just been elected president of the Interborough Metropolitan company, which controls the Rapid Transit and many surface lines in New York.

No announcement was made as to who will succeed Mr. Shonts as chairman of the commission, but it was learned authoritatively that headquarters would be removed from Washington to Panama and a high-salaried chairman to serve in that capacity alone will not be named. This being admitted, it follows that John F. Stevens, the engineer in charge of the construction of the canal, would not be made subordinate to another official on the isthmus. Without definite announcement, therefore, it is regarded as a certainty that Mr. Stevens will be named as chairman of the commission and will assume his duties as such in connection with his post of chief engineer.

Mr. Shonts' retirement does not come wholly as a surprise. It has been rumored persistently as soon as action had been taken upon the proposition to build the canal by contract that Mr. Shonts would sever his connection and resume a calling more congenial to his taste. Secretary Taft of the war department confirmed the rumor by saying that Mr. Shonts' resignation was voluntary, which fact is borne out by the letter of the president accepting it.

HARRY THAW TRIAL BEGUN.

Rotten Murder Case in New York Now Has the Boards.

The trial of Harry Kendall Thaw, millionaire, for the murder of Stanford White, architect at the Madison Square Roof Garden the evening of June 25, 1906, began in New York Wednesday morning.

The examination of witnesses did not fully develop the line of defense, though there were allusions in the questions of the prosecution both as to the law as it relates to the sanity of an accused person and to the "unwritten law" of which so much has been said and written since the tragedy was enacted.

During the examination of the first witness, Thaw's counsel objected to the form of questions as propounded by the district attorney as to insanity or the unwritten law, but they told the court they did not object to the questions in principle.

Scene approaching absolute disorder attended the opening of the trial.

Most of the clashes were between reporters and correspondents and the police. Of the newspaper men there were perhaps 200, and there was policeman for each. The great square of blue goals was commanded by police inspectors. Only about fifty newspaper writers finally were admitted the remainder of space in the courtroom being reserved for the 200 laymen summoned on the special jury panel.

The trial began before Justice Fitzgerald of the supreme court.

AT VARDAMAN'S HOME TOWN

Mob Lynchers Negro in Close Proximity to Governor's Residence.

Information reported in Jackson, Miss., Wednesday evening was that a negro named Henry Bell was lynched at Greenwood, the home of Governor Vardaman, Tuesday night, by unknown parties. The negro assaulted Mrs. Graves of that place some months ago, and had been in the Greenville jail for safekeeping.

Tuesday night he arrived at Greenwood in charge of a deputy sheriff, and while that official was taking him from the train to the jail he was surrounded by fifty men, who took him away and strung him to a railroad bridge. The coroner's jury returned verdict that the negro came to his death at the hands of unknown parties.

Agricultural Appropriation Bill.

Representative Wadsworth of New York from the committee on agriculture reported the agricultural appropriation bill to the house Wednesday. The bill carries \$7,635,730 for the ordinary and regular routine work of the agricultural department.

SIMS MUST STAY IN PEN.

Atlanta Man Who Stole \$90,000 From Bank Is Refused Pardon.

A Washington dispatch says: Hallman Sims, who was sentenced six years in the Atlanta federal prison for embezzling ninety thousand dollars from the Capital City National Bank of Atlanta, while he was a clerk in that institution, has been denied pardon.